

New Claims

- / 18. An antibody comprising a monoclonal antibody having an affinity of $> 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$ against the epitope YPYDVPDYA, (SEQ ID NO: 1).
- / 19. An antibody comprising a monoclonal antibody having an affinity of $10^9 - 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$ against the epitope YPYDVPDYA, (SEQ ID NO: 1).
20. The monoclonal antibody of claim 18 or claim 19, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide.
21. The monoclonal antibody of claim 18 or claim 19, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridomas which are obtained by fusing mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells with B lymphocytes from Lou/C rats, said Lou/C rats having been immunized with a haemagglutinin peptide, wherein said immunization is carried out with a haemagglutinin peptide coupled to keyhole limpet haemocyanin.
22. The monoclonal antibody of claim 18 or claim 19, wherein said antibody is produced by hybridoma R 3A12 deposited at the "Deutsche Sammlung für Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen" under the No. DSM ACC2286 (08.10.1996).
- / 23. A method for the production of a monoclonal antibody against the epitope YPYDVPDYA (SEQ ID NO: 1) comprising:
(a) synthesizing a haemagglutinin peptide,
(b) immunizing a small mammal with said peptide,
(c) isolating B lymphocytes from the spleen of said mammal and fusing said

lymphocytes with mouse P3x63-Ag8.653 myeloma cells to form clones,
(d) selecting clones formed in step (c) which bind to a haemagglutinin peptide
and to a haemagglutinin fusion protein, and
(e) selecting a clone with a high affinity from those selected in step (d) and
establishing said clone as a hybrid cell line.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said haemagglutinin peptide is selected from the group consisting of acetyl-YPYDVPDYAGSGSK (ϵ -biotinoyl) amide (a derivative of SEQ ID NO: 2) and biotinoyl- ϵ -Aca-SGSGYPYDVPDYA amide (a derivative of SEQ ID NO: 3).
 25. The method of claim 23, wherein said haemagglutinin fusion protein is haemagglutinin-tagged glutathione-S-transferase.
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